

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended): A method for treating an inflammatory bowel disease, ~~the inflammatory bowel disease being ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease~~, said method comprising administering an effective amount of polypeptide belonging to a thioredoxin superfamily to a patient in need thereof, ~~of the inflammatory bowel disease treatment~~

said polypeptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of -Cys-Gly-Pro-Cys-, -Cys-Pro-Tyr-Cys-, -Cys-Pro-His-Cys-, and -Cys-Pro-Pro-Cys-, ~~and, said polypeptide having an activity of alleviating the symptoms of an inflammatory bowel disease.~~

5. (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 4, wherein the effective amount is 1-100 mg of polypeptide per kg body weight of a human adult.

6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 4, wherein said polypeptide is an isolated polypeptide comprising the sequence -Cys-Gly-Pro-Cys- (SEQ ID NO:1), ~~and has an activity of alleviating the symptoms of an inflammatory bowel disease.~~

10. (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 4, wherein said polypeptide is in reduced form.

11. (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 4, wherein a solution or a suspension comprising said polypeptide is administered.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 4, wherein the polypeptide is human thioredoxin.